

What is claimed is:

1. An image recording apparatus comprising:

a recording head of an ink jet system for jetting an ultraviolet curable ink on a recording medium to form an image; and

an irradiation device for radiating an ultraviolet ray to the ink placed on the recording medium to cure and fix the ink,

wherein the apparatus has a plurality of recording modes with different image recording speeds for changing a maximum amount of ink to be jetted corresponding to the plurality of recording modes.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the maximum amount of ink to be jetted is decreased for a recording mode with a high image recording speed, and the maximum amount of ink to be jetted is increased for a recording mode with a low image recording speed, in the plurality of recording modes.

3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein a recording type is a serial print type in which the recording head of the ink jet system and the irradiation device for radiating an ultraviolet ray are mounted on a same carriage.

4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein a recording type is a line print type.

5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein a recording type is a flat bed print type.

6. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the apparatus comprising:

four or more recording heads for forming an image by jetting four colors of inks of yellow, magenta, cyan, and black,

wherein a total amount of ink to be jetted of a single color or a plurality of colors necessary for forming an image by jetting the ink from the plurality of recording heads so as to generate almost no gap on the recording medium is 5g/m^2 or more, and

the total amount of ink to be jetted is set to be 5g/m^2 or more and a ratio of amounts of inks of individual colors to be jetted is set, corresponding to the plurality of recording modes.

7. An image recording method comprising:

forming an image by jetting an ultraviolet curable ink on a recording medium from a recording head of an ink jet system; thereafter

radiating an ultraviolet ray to the ink placed on the recording medium by an irradiation device to cure and fix the ink; and

changing a maximum amount of ink to be jetted corresponding to a plurality of recording modes with different image recording speeds.